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SUBJECT: RWANDA ON MAURITANIA AND AFRICAN UNION

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(SBU) Pol/Econ Chief delivered reftel demarche to Ministry of Foreign Affairs Africa Director Augustin Rutikara on December 22. Rutikara signaled Rwanda's continued support for the firm AU approach toward the military junta in Mauritania, saying that "no recognition" was the proper approach, and that hasty elections would benefit only the military leaders. Sanctions were worth considering, he said, as the international community sought to pressure the military regime.

SYMINGTON